

CLAIMS (Amended, Clean)

I Claim:

1. (Original) A composition for applying to a wound for promoting healing comprising:

(i) an antioxidant in which the active center is a 2,2,6,6-tetraalkyl piperidinyll group and in which the nitrogen atom in the piperidine ring in the active center is attached to a group selected from the group consisting of H (hydrogen), alkyl, O (oxygen radical), alkoxy, acyloxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and

(ii) an inert carrier that comprises a hydrogel.

2. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 in which the antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of;

bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate,

bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)succinate,

bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate,

bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)sebacate,

bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl) n-butyl-3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-

hydroxybenzylmalonate,

the condensate of 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-

hydroxypiperidine and succinic acid,

tetrakis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-1,2,3,4-butane-tetracarboxylate, 4-benzoyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine,
4-stearyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine,
bis(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidyl)-2-n-butyl-2-(2-hydroxy-3,5-di-tert-butyl-benzyl)malonate,
3-n-octyl-7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-1,3,8-triazaspiro[4.5]decan-2,4-dion, bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl)sebacate,
bis(1-octyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl)succinate,
a mixture of 4-hexadecyloxy- and 4-stearyloxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine, and
N-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl)-n-dodecylsuccinimid, N-(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl)-n-dodecylsuccinimid, 2-undecyl-7,7,9,9-tetramethyl-1-oxa-3,8-diaza-4-oxo-spiro[4,5]decane.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 in which the carrier is a mixture of water and a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylamide, polymethacrylic acid, copolymers of diacetone acrylamide (DAA) and hydroxyethyl acrylate (HEA), polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid, polyacrylonitrile, and polyvinyl alcohol.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (Original) A method for treating a wound in a vertebrate comprising the step of allowing the wound to come into contact with the composition of claim 1.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 for treating a wound in a vertebrate further comprising the steps of

- (i) allowing the the wound to remain in contact with the composition of claim 1 for a period of between 3 and 7 days,
- (ii) applying to the wound further treatment modalities.

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)